

Unit 7. Middle Nushagak River Corridor, Koliganek Vicinity

Background

Land Status. Most of the land is owned by Koliganek Natives Ltd. No uplands are owned by the state in the unit. The Nushagak River is navigable; the state owns the shorelands. Eleven Native allotments are in the unit.

Miles of River. The main channel of the Nushagak River extends for 16 miles.

Access. The corridor is easily accessible by motorboat, float plane, and snowmobile. The unit is about a one-hour flight from Dillingham. A developed public airstrip exists in Koliganek. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities intends to develop a new airport at Koliganek. The river is important for use as a corridor for boat travel between Koliganek and downriver villages.

Existing Development. The unit contains the village of Koliganek and one cabin used seasonally.

Fisheries. The middle Nushagak River is a major salmon migration route as well as important king and chum salmon spawning habitat.

Subsistence fishing use is high, particularly near Koliganek. Sport fishing use is low to moderate.

Wildlife. Moose density is low to moderate; caribou density is occasionally high.

Subsistence hunting use is high; the unit is a traditional hunting area for local residents. Little sport hunting use takes place in the unit because of private land ownership, expense of access, and competition with local hunters.

Trails and Easements. The following 17(b) easements are located in this unit: EIN 26, 26a, 27, 27a, and 35. (Refer to the maps in the envelope in the back of this document for descriptions of these easements.)

Other Values. A moderate amount of floating takes place in the corridor, much of it guided. Koliganek is used as a take out spot for upper Nushagak and Nuyakuk floaters. Scenic values are low because of constricted views and low landscape diversity. The corridor is important for local trapping and woodcutting uses. Two cultural sites are documented in the unit.

Management Intent

Semi-developed use experience.

Management Guidelines

Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site)

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.*
Temporary facilities	Prohibited.*
Trapping cabins	Prohibited.*
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	May be allowed (case-by-case).
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

* The state owns only shorelands in this unit. Permanent facilities and temporary facilities (except for floating facilities) and trapping cabins are prohibited on shorelands.

Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site)

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit

None.

Public Use Sites

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 13 Campsite and floatplane landing area on shorelands on the Nushagak River at the mouth of the Nuyakuk River. The state owns only the shorelands in this public use site. Uplands are Native corporation-owned.

Recommendations for this Unit

None.